

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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SUBJECT: Umatilla County Local Work Group Meeting

FROM: Andrea Mann, NRCS Umatilla County District Conservationist

WHEN: Tuesday, January 26, 2016, 7:30 – 10:00 am

WHERE: The Saddle Restaurant and Lounge
2220 SE Court St. in Pendleton, Oregon
No host breakfast available

As a leader in Umatilla County, you recognize both the challenges and the opportunities we have to solve natural resource problems together. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Umatilla County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Tiicham Conservation District along with other members of the community will be holding this meeting to gather your input regarding improving and prioritizing the natural resource concerns across the county.

Our goal is to bring together individuals with a variety of expertise and knowledge allowing NRCS and others to build on our collective successes while focusing our efforts to make the greatest impact with our available staff and funding. We need your help to:

- ✓ re-evaluate and prioritize local resource concerns and focus areas,
- ✓ strategize to improve leveraging of funding and develop partner contributions toward solving resource concerns,
- ✓ identify challenges and strategies to Achieve Measurable Outcomes, and
- ✓ Update the NRCS Long Range Plan to reflect progress and changes.

The information you provide in this process will help address resource concerns for program year 2016 and beyond.

Outcomes from last year's meeting include the development of the following funding pools currently accepting applications:

- Forestry fuel reduction in the Meacham area
- Hudson Bay irrigation upgrades for water savings
- Indian Lakes Forest and Grazing Resources

Potential new technology to explore include:

- Drone Technology
- Bacteria MB-906 to control cheat grass, Medusahead and goat grass
- Biochar for soil water savings and nutrient cycling

Questions concerning the Local Work Group can be answered by calling:

Andrea Mann, NRCS District Conservationist – (541) 278-8049, extension 105
Terry Johnson, NRCS District Conservationist – (541) 429-7250